**BMJ in the News** is a weekly digest of BMJ stories, plus any other news about the company that has appeared in the national and a selection of English-speaking international media.

This week’s (30 March - 5 April) highlights include:

**The BMJ**

**Investigation:** Why have UK doctors been deterred from prescribing Avastin?

- Drug company accused of 'blocking' cheap eye treatment - BBC News 2/4/15
- The Eyes Have It? Novartis is Accused of Interfering With Trials for Avastin - the Wall Street Journal 2/4/15
- Today Programme BBC 4 Radio (from 1:31mins)


**Research:** Efficacy and safety of paracetamol for spinal pain and osteoarthritis

- Paracetamol 'no good for back pain' - BBC News 1/4/15
- The Limits of Tylenol for Pain Relief - New York Times 1/4/15
- The drugs don't work – medication for back pain is no better than placebo - Sydney Morning Herald 1/4/15
- The Today Programme BBC Radio 4 (from 1:14mins)

Analysis: Evidence and rhetoric about access to UK primary care

Public 'Should Question' Promises On GP Access - Sky News 1/4/15
Party pledges to improve GP access will be 'challenging' to achieve - the Independent 1/4/15
UK Party Pledges on NHS 'Unrealistic' - Newsweek

Also covered The Times & The Times Ireland, the Mirror, Liberal Democrats Yahoo News, Pulse, On Medica, Medical Xpress, KL.FM 96.7, Belfast Telegraph, Get Bucks, Laboratory Talk, Silver Surf Today and Rochdale Online

Letter: Public Health England’s draft report on shale gas extraction

Doctors and academics call for ban on 'inherently risky' fracking - The Guardian 30/3/15
'Expert' report on fracking risks was written by activist - The Times & The Times Ireland 31/3/15
Top UK doctors call for ban on "inherently risky" fracking - Ars Technica 31/3/15


Research: Effect of Massachusetts healthcare reform on racial and ethnic disparities in admissions to hospital for ambulatory care sensitive conditions

Where Romneycare fell short — and what that could mean for Obamacare - Washington Post 1/4/15
Are People Getting More Care Or Better Care Under Obamacare? - Forbes 4/4/15

Also covered by Market Watch, Science Codex and Medical Xpress.

Continued media coverage: Air Pollution may be tied to Anxiety - Reuters 31/3/15
Air Pollution linked to Anxiety - Shape Magazine 31/3/15
Air pollution greatly raises stroke risk, data review says - International New York Times 1/4/15 (in print, no link available)

How to Surgically Reduce Health-Care Costs - TIME 31/3/15
The Healing Power of Your Own Medical Records - the New York Times 31/3/15
The Places America Forgot - Huffington Post 31/3/15
And now, buy breast milk online - Hindu Business Line 31/3/15 (in print)
Female embryos more likely to die in pregnancy than males, study claims - the Guardian 30/3/15
All parties must spell out the details of their plans for the NHS - The Guardian 31/3/15
Study suggests surgeons do get better with experience - Reuters 2/4/15
Experts Call For Urgent Action On India's Alarming TB Epidemic - Asian Scientist 31/3/15
'Impractical' to use Medical Detection Dogs? Wrong - The Telegraph 30/3/15
Opinion: Childhood obesity screening – pseudoscience or pragmatic precaution? - Irish Times 30/3/15
Obesity: Young girls are more likely than boys to be seen as overweight - Mirror 31/3/15
Crucial child vaccines reach just 4 per cent of India's rural communities - Daily Mail 3/4/15
Researchers: Total Disk Replacement Effective in Real-World Setting - Pain Medicine News 2/4/15
Why that hot drink may be bad for you - the Independent 2/4/15
Why that nice hot cuppa may be bad for you - Irish Daily Mail 31/3/15 (in print)
17 Ways Your Job Is Making You Fat - Great Ideas 4/3/15
MANAGE HIGH BP WITHOUT PILLS - 4/3/15
Science Round Up - Oregon Live 5/3/15
Sir Anthony Grahamb - The Independent 30/3/15
The ages that define a man's life - Daily Mail & Irish Daily Mail 1/4/15 (in print; no link available)
Take care while you relax with your bab - the Daily Mirror & Irish Daily Mail 3/4/15 (in print; link unavailable)
What to eat - Daily Mail & Scottish Daily Mail 31/3/15 (in print; link unavailable)

JOURNALS

Occupational & Environmental Medicine

Research: Domestic use of bleach and infections in children: a multicentre cross-sectional study

Cleaning with bleach linked to more childhood infections - Sydney Morning Herald 3/4/15
Bleach use at home puts kids at risk - Times of India 4/4/15
Cleaning with bleach could expose children to infection - Irish Independent 3/4/15

**Open Heart**

**Research: Trends in 30-day mortality rate and case mix for paediatric cardiac surgery in the UK between 2000 and 2010**

UK children’s heart surgery death rates nearly halve in 10 years - The Guardian 2/4/15
Child heart surgery deaths ‘halved’ - BBC News 3/4/15
Number of children dying in UK after heart surgery halves - ITV news 3/4/15


**British Journal of Sports Medicine**

Concussion needs research, no opinions - (previous PR) Sydney Morning Herald 4/4/15
Seven ways fishing can enhance your health - Western Morning News 30/3/15

**BMJ Open**

Big rise in war veterans seeking help - The Daily Telegraph 31/3/15
Patients over 60 at increased risk of emergency cancer diagnosis - Oncology Nurse Advisor 2/4/15 (Previous PR)

Also covered by Cancer Research UK news

**Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases**

AS activity tied to future risk for heart disease - MedPage Today 5/4/15
Psoriatic arthritis and the heart: is there a risk? - MedPage Today 4/4/15

**Archives of Disease in Childhood**

Opinion: childhood obesity screening - pseudoscience or pragmatic precaution? - The Irish Times 31/03/15